

# STUDY UNIT LIST (MA)

## Abbreviations

L = Lecture

S = Seminar (practical class)

O = Obligatory unit

OE = obligatory elective (must take the a sufficient number of credits from the subject)

## MA IN SEMIOTICS

### HOST INSTITUTE

The Department of Russian Language and Literature

### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MA PROGRAMME IN SEMIOTICS

#### SHORT DESCRIPTION

Semiotics is an ancient discipline with a long history, which has gained a firm theoretical foundation during the 19th century and an ever growing significance over the last 50 years. This discipline is now in a period of very intensive, concentrated research and self-identification on the map of contemporary science.

The ELTE interdisciplinary semiotics MA programme educates students to become well-trained specialists in semiotics of culture with a global overview of the various fields of humanities: literary studies, linguistics, philosophy, visual arts and general art studies – including approaches to fine arts, films, theatre and music – and also the most contemporary methods of research synthesized from a semiotic methodological point of view. At the same time, choosing the specific field for diploma work students can gain a specialised knowledge in one subfield of the semiotics of humanities (e.g. literary, visual, musical, theoretical semiotics, ethnosemiotics, etc.). The programme is designed to be flexible to motivate students to find the best Hungarian specialists in the given field and assist them to become involved in international research and dialogues with foreign scholars and lecturers. The curriculum consists of courses on the history and theory of semiotics; language, communication, texts and translation; theory of meaning, logic, argumentation; field studies of cultural, national and special semiotic systems; various forms of applied semiotics and semiotic pragmatics in general. The programme also lays emphasis on the preparation of students for PhD studies to plan their research career.

#### STRENGTH OF THE PROGRAMME

The semiotics MA program established in Budapest shows the strength of

- an **interdisciplinary** orientation within the humanities;
- the application of the valuable research and methodological results of **classical semiotics** linking them to the most **recent scholarly results** in the discipline;
- equilibrium in teaching **semiotic theory** and its implications in **applied semiotics**;
- flexibility in encouraging students to find their own **subfield** by enabling their **specialisation** (free option possibilities inbuilt in the curriculum);
- forming an **international context** for research and education;

- offering perspectives for students with an MA degree in semiotics to continue with **further studies to acquire a PhD degree** in other directions, not restricted to semiotics.

### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

The labour market for specialists with an MA degree in semiotics includes job opportunities for experts expected to have the skill

- to understand current cultural movements;
- to grasp and describe the developmental logic in contemporary arts and the various forms of intercultural communication both within social interaction and national and international cultural texts;
- to interpret and describe different media and message transfer processes;
- to analyse conflict, argumentation systems and philosophical discourse in any field which can be interpreted from the point of view of sign system constructions;
- to build models, typologies and create system-descriptions.

Also jobs may be found in fields linked to applied semiotics (e.g. sign system translation activities; analysis of behaviour symptoms in the work-place; symptom-interpretation in various social or work groups; activities for handling situations in spheres where special sign systems are involved, etc.).

### **MA PROGRAMME TITLE**

Semiotics

### **DEGREE AWARDED**

Successful graduates of this MA will be awarded a degree in which the following elements will appear:

- the level of the degree the graduate has attained (master; abbreviation: MA);
- the academic discipline the graduate has studied (Semiotics);
- the holder of MA degree will be described as a qualified semiotician in his/her certification.

No specialisation or concentration of study within the MA which the graduate has completed is indicated.

### **DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME**

4 semesters (2 years)

### **CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION**

120

### **PROGRAMME DIRECTOR**

Dr. Mária Gyöngyösi, professor, Department of Russian Language and Literature

## Study Unit List

| Code BMI-                                  | Name of Study Unit                                                                      | Semester When Offered | Type of Course | Obl./Elec. | Hours/Week | Credits | Prerequisite(s) | Ideally taken in ... semester |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------|------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>FUNDAMENTAL COURSES: 13 CREDITS</b>     |                                                                                         |                       |                |            |            |         |                 |                               |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO26-100                         | Introduction to Semiotics (The History and Theory of Semiotics) I.                      | 1                     | L              | o          | 2/28       | 4       |                 | 1                             |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-101                           | Introduction to Semiotics (The History and Theory of Semiotics) II.                     | 2                     | L              | o          | 2/28       | 4       |                 | 2                             |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO26-200                         | Intercultural Communication Studies: Concepts, Theories and Research                    | 1                     | L              | o          | 2/28       | 5       |                 | 1                             |
| ELTE-OI-AI                                 | Start wAItleSS - Introduction to the use of Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education | 1                     | IP             | o          | 2/28       | 0       |                 | 1                             |
| <b>BASIC COURSES: 23 CREDITS</b>           |                                                                                         |                       |                |            |            |         |                 |                               |
| LANGUAGE, COMMUNICATION, TEXTS (9 CREDITS) |                                                                                         |                       |                |            |            |         |                 |                               |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-201                           | Literary and Semiotic Theories Conceptualized in Text Analyses                          | 2                     | L              | o          | 2/28       | 5       |                 | 1                             |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-210                           | Myths, Tales, Legends, Narratives and Cultural Thinking                                 | 1                     | L              | o          | 2/28       | 4       |                 | 1                             |
| <b>CULTURAL SEMIOTICS (14 CREDITS)</b>     |                                                                                         |                       |                |            |            |         |                 |                               |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-211                           | Fundamentals of Music History – Semiotics of Music                                      | 2                     | L              | o          | 2/28       | 4       |                 | 2                             |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-212                           | New Art History and Semiotics                                                           | 3                     | L              | o          | 2/28       | 4       |                 | 3                             |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-220                           | Semiotics of Culture I. (Semiotics of National – Hungarian Culture)                     | 1                     | L              | o          | 2/28       | 3       |                 | 1                             |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---|----|------|---|--|-----|
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-221                                                                                                                                                                  | Semiotics and Identity Constructions                                                            | 4   | S | o  | 2/28 | 3 |  | 4   |
| <b>PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE – THEORIES OF SIGN AND MEANING AND LOGIC – REASONING<br/>10 CREDITS</b>                                                                                 |                                                                                                 |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-300                                                                                                                                                                  | Philosophy of Language – Theories of Sign and Meaning                                           | 2   |   | o  | 2/28 | 6 |  | 2   |
| one of the courses must be completed for 4 credits                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                 |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO26-301                                                                                                                                                                | Logic – Reasoning                                                                               | 3   | S | oe | 2/28 | 4 |  | 3   |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-302                                                                                                                                                                  | Logic – Reasoning                                                                               | 3   | L | oe | 2/28 | 4 |  | 3   |
| <b>SEMIOTICS OF CULTURE AND VISUAL TEXTS – PICTURE:<br/>10 CREDITS</b>                                                                                                            |                                                                                                 |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-310                                                                                                                                                                  | Semiotics of Culture II. (Topoi and Motifs in World Literature and Culture)                     | 1   | S | o  | 2/28 | 4 |  | 1   |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-311                                                                                                                                                                  | Visual Texts – Picture Interpretation                                                           | 2   | S | o  | 2/28 | 3 |  | 2   |
| <b>ONE OF THE COURSES MUST BE COMPLETED FOR 3 CREDITS</b>                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                 |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-312                                                                                                                                                                  | Semiotics of Culture III. (Semiotic Text Reading and Interpretation: Literature, Theatre, Film) | 3-4 | S | oe | 2/28 | 3 |  | 3-4 |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-313                                                                                                                                                                  | Semiotics of Culture III. (Semiotic Text Reading and Interpretation: Semiotics of Authors)      | 3-4 | S | oe | 2/28 | 3 |  | 3-4 |
| <b>CULTURE AND INTERCULTURALITY AND DISCOURSE AND CULTURE 11 CREDITS</b>                                                                                                          |                                                                                                 |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| *BMI-ENGSEMIO-323 can be taken by the codes of: BMI-ANGD-CKK1a-1b, CKK-2a-2b, CKK-3a-3b, CKK-4a-4b, CKK-5a-5b, CKK6a-6b, CKK7a-7b, CKK 8a-8b CKK 9a-9b, 10a-10b, 11a-11b, 12a-12b |                                                                                                 |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-323*                                                                                                                                                                 | Culture and Interculturality                                                                    | 1-4 | L | o  | 2/28 | 6 |  | 1-4 |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-321                                                                                                                                                                  | Discourse and Culture                                                                           | 3   | S | o  | 2/28 | 5 |  | 3   |
| <b>SEMIOTICS OF CULTURE 12 CREDITS</b>                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                 |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |

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| BMI-ENGSEMIO-330                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Cultural Semiotics IV. (Poetological and Semiotic Text Interpretation – comparatistics) | 4   | S | o  | 2/28 | 3 |  | 4   |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-331                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Cultural Semiotics V. (Sign Systems in Cultural Texts)                                  | 4   | L | o  | 2/28 | 5 |  | 4   |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-332                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Period Paradigms and Period Changes in Music and Art History                            | 3   | L | o  | 2/28 | 4 |  | 3   |
| <b>THESIS SEMINAR: 2 CREDITS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                         |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-334                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Thesis seminar                                                                          | 4   | S | o  | 2/28 | 2 |  | 4   |
| <b>SPECIAL SEMIOTIC COURSE : 9 CREDITS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                         |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| <b>3 COURSES TO BE COMPLETED, TOTALING 9 CREDITS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                         |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| <b>1. Obligatory elective special courses: 9 credits (60–90 hours) Preferences for fields of choice for elective courses:</b><br>Semiotic Semantics, Theory of Meaning, Logic; Semiotic Syntactics, Sign Systems; Semiotic Pragmatics, the Use of Signs, Signalling Practice; Special Sign Systems. |                                                                                         |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| <b>a)</b> Any semiotic-oriented or cultural study course from the Faculty of Humanities can be chosen. Previous consultation with the director of the Semiotics MA programme is obligatory.                                                                                                         |                                                                                         |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| <b>b)</b> Special courses on semiotics can be chosen                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                         |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-403                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Special Semiotic Course 1.                                                              | 1-4 | S | oe | 2/28 | 3 |  | 1-4 |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-404                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Special Semiotic Course 2.                                                              | 1-4 | S | oe | 2/28 | 3 |  | 1-4 |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-405                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Special Semiotic Course 3.                                                              | 1-4 | S | oe | 2/28 | 3 |  | 1-4 |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-406                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Special Semiotic Course 1.                                                              | 1-4 | L | oe | 2/28 | 3 |  | 1-4 |
| BMI-ENGSEMIO-407                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Special Semiotic Course 2.                                                              | 1-4 | L | oe | 2/28 | 3 |  | 1-4 |

|                          |                            |     |   |    |      |   |  |     |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----|---|----|------|---|--|-----|
| BMI-<br>ENGSEMIO-<br>408 | Special Semiotic Course 3. | 1-4 | L | oe | 2/28 | 3 |  | 1-4 |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----|---|----|------|---|--|-----|

## THESIS 20 CREDITS

|                         |                |   |  |  |  |    |  |  |
|-------------------------|----------------|---|--|--|--|----|--|--|
| BMI-<br>ENGSEMIO-<br>TH | Thesis Writing | 4 |  |  |  | 20 |  |  |
|-------------------------|----------------|---|--|--|--|----|--|--|

### **I. FREE ELECTIVE COURSES: 10 CREDITS (60–90 hours)**

The credit requirements may be fulfilled by any course in the Faculty.